The One Hundred and Fifth Annual Report

OF THE

TRUSTEES

OF THE

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

MASSACHUSETTS

For the Year 1957

BRADBURY-WARING, INC.
New Bedford, Mass.

Officers and Staff of the Free Public Library

Trustees

HON. FRANCIS J. LAWLER	Mayor of the City

Elected by the City Council

H. ERNEST DIONNE	Term expires April 1958
RICHARD G. HAWES	Term expires April 1958
JAMES M. QUINN	Term expires April 1959
ROBERTA S. BARNET	Term expires April 1959
CAROLYN B. MANNING	Term expires April 1960
RICHARD F. BAILEY	Term expires April 1960

STAFF

Librarian

LAURENCE G. HILL

Heads of Departments

MARION H. BONNER	Reference Librarian
YVETTE BOISCLAIR	Art Librarian
CHARLOTTE S. NYE	Supervisor of Children, Schools and Young People
CELESTINE M. POWERS	Supervisor of Technical Processes
JEANIE D. SHIELDS	Bookmobile Librarian

Assistants

CATHERINE BELL
MARIAN CALLANAN
SHIRLEY COHEN
EVALINA CONSTANTINE
MARGARET FANNING
GERTRUDE GOLDSTEIN
NATALIE GOODWIN
LIDA HASKINS
REGINALD HEGARTY
ANNE HOOD
*RACHEL LANDRY
CHARLOTTE McCOY
ALICE MAHONEY
THELMA PAINE
LORETTA PHANEUF
FRANCES SANDERSON
DEOLINDA TAVARES
JOHANNA WALSH
CECELIA WEAVER
MARGUERITE ZIELINSKI

Branches

North Branch — SALLY VICTORIA, ALICE NOEL
South Branch — CEZALTINA MENDOZA, MARY PHANEUF
West Branch — LUCY ANN SHERMAN, IRENE WILES

Building Maintenance Staff

ROSE ALVES
ADRIEN LANDRY
ALICE MARSH
WILLIAM MARSH
HILDA MONIZ
GARRISON OLIVER
LEONARD ROSE
GABRIEL SOUZA

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* Resigned

Trustees' Report

To the Honorable, the City Council of the City of New Bedford, Mass.

The Trustees present their One Hundred and Fifth Annual Report to the City Council in the report of the Librarian.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES,

LAURENCE G. HILL,

Clerk of the Board

Annual Report of the Librarian 1957

The program of modernization and expansion of the Library continued in full swing during 1957 with the completion of the following:

New roof for the Main Library
Extensive plaster repair
Complete interior painting
Exterior cleaning and pointing
Floodlighting the Whaleman's Statue

All the above improvements were financed from income of the Wilks Fund at a cost of $28,980.11. From a maintenance point of view the new roof is by far the most important matter. However, it is interesting to note that the most public interest was caused by the exterior cleaning of the building. The Librarian was stopped on the street many times during and after the operation by citizens known and unknown who commented favorably on the clean face of the building.

The next major renovation should be the plumbing system and a survey of the heating and ventilating system of the Main Library.

Construction of the Wilks Branch Library at Brooklawn Park began in early April and has continued with no more than the usual frustrating delay. It is expected that the branch will be opened in March 1958. The architect, the Librarian and the contractor are agreed that rarely has a building of this size been erected with fewer changes or departures from the original specifications and plans. I feel that this is a tribute to the excellent work of the architect in preparing the plans and the cooperative spirit and integrity of the contractor.

ADULT SERVICES

In spite of the necessary inconvenience, noise and confusion attendant on the repairs and renovation the service to the

Library's clientele suffered very little and showed no diminution in quantity. In fact, there was a small increase in circulation bringing the yearly total to 490,550 a gain of 2,719 over 1956. A loss in circulation of adult fiction was more than compensated for by gains in adult non-fiction and juvenile book circulation.

The Reference Department including the Business and Technical and Local History and Genealogy divisions experienced a busy year. A total of over 13,000 questions, each requiring considerable research, were answered. It is interesting to note that while book circulation drops noticeably during the summer months the work of the Reference Department dips only slightly during June, July and August.

The Library because of its excellent historical and genealogy collections does perhaps more than the ordinary amount of mail reference work. Within reason every attempt is made to answer these requests. Some of these questions open fascinating sidelights on New Bedford history.

The circulation of recordings in the Art Room continues to be a popular service. The circulation totaled 4,596, an increase of 25% over 1956. A record player with six earphone attachments was purchased and has been much used by all classes of listeners from teen-agers to serious musicians and hi-fi enthusiasts.

SERVICE TO CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Circulation of children's books increased during 1957 by six thousand volumes. Miss Nye visited the schools to tell stories and introduce the Library to the younger readers. Because of the work being done in the Main Library few classes were able to visit us here for the usual tour of the Library. Because of its convenient location classes in north end schools will use the newly completed Wilks Branch for classroom visits next year. Active cooperation with the Girl Scouts as library aides and for reading merit badges continued as in

past years. The summer reading club winner, a girl, read 108 books during the eight weeks of summer.

The Library tends to lose a considerable portion of its readers when they transfer to adult card privileges. We have tried to keep these readers by placing special shelves for young adult readers in the main reading room. This has been reasonably successful but this is an area of service that will need concentrated attention and planning. Expansion of work with young adults will be somewhat limited by space considerations but I feel more can and should be done.

BRANCH AND BOOKMOBILE SERVICE

The enlarged quarters of the West Branch have met with universal approval by library patrons as evidenced by their comments and the increased circulation. Toward the end of the year serious consideration was being given to building a West Branch along similar lines to the Wilks Branch.

The South Branch Library noted a decrease in book circulation but a definite gain in reference work. The branch is in serious need of renovation particularly in the matter of new flooring and furniture. It is also time for repainting and decorating.

The Weld Square Branch, our smallest in point of circulation, should be closed and the area served by the Bookmobile. Another alternative is to relocate the branch in rented quarters in a more accessible area.

Bookmobile service accounted for 55,466 books circulated in 1957. It is particularly appreciated in the various housing projects. With the opening of the Wilks Branch some revision of the schedule will be necessary.

PERSONNEL

Although many avenues have been explored the Librarian has not been able to obtain qualified applicants for the

position of Assistant Librarian at the salary offered.

The new municipal salary and wage schedule adopted in 1957 corrected many of the existing inequities in the library pay scale but still leaves the Library well below the salary scale necessary to attract young professional librarians. In-service training provides the only alternative to academic qualifications. Intensive efforts will be made in this direction during 1958.

FUTURE PLANS

The Librarian and I am sure the Trustees feel that during the past few years too little has been done in the field of adult education and the positive promotion of the materials and services which the Library possesses. Now that the major responsibilities of renovation have been discharged I feel that the efforts of the Librarian and the staff should be directed toward promotion of the full use of the Library by all who can profit from the materials and services available. Specifically, this should take the form of library sponsored events of the literary, social or artistic nature and expansion of the publication and distribution of booklists and pamphlets. In short, an extensive, broadly conceived and continuing advertising campaign planned to exploit the goods and services available should be adopted.

No small part of the above plan is an active in-service training program designed to develop an insight into and enthusiasm for library work as well as to teach the mechanics and techniques of handling books and other library materials.

I would like to thank the Library staff for their patience and ingenuity in overcoming the physical obstacles placed in their way during the year. I also thank the Trustees for their sincere interest and efforts in promoting the welfare of the Library.

LAURENCE G. HILL,

Librarian.

STATISTICS

Name of Library—New Bedford Free Public Library
City—New Bedford State—Massachusetts
Name of Librarian—Laurence G. Hill
Date of Founding—1852
Population Served—109,189 (U.S. Census 1950)
Government unit served—City of New Bedford
Terms of use—Free lending. Free reference.
Total number of agencies—269
Central Library, 3 Branches, Bookmobile, 264 School Deposits and Classroom Libraries.

Number of days open during year—309
Hours open each week for reading and lending—69
Hours of service per week required of staff—35

Library Hours—Main Library

Monday - Friday	9:00 A.M. — 9:00 P.M.
Saturday	9:00 A.M. — 6:00 P.M.

BOOK STOCK

Number of volumes at beginning of year	270,649
Added by purchase and gift	10,736
Number of volumes withdrawn	2,960
Number of volumes at end of year	278,425
Number of newspapers received	32
Number of periodicals received	296
Number of recordings added	80
Total number of records	1,025

CIRCULATION AND USE

Number of volumes of adult non-fiction lent for home use	81,191
Number of volumes of adult fiction lent for home use	125,932
Number of books for children lent for home use	282,627

Total Book Circulation	490,550
Number of mounted pictures loaned	33,061
Number of recordings circulated	4,596

REGISTRATION

Total number of registered card holders	22,240
Registration period — 3 years	

EXPENDED 1957

	City Appro-priation	Wilks Fund	Other Trust Funds	Total
Salaries & Wages	$116,235.11	$ 1,000.00		$117,235.11
Books & Periodicals		11,312.58	15,563.79	26,876.37
Recordings			159.87	159.87
Microfilm			403.57	403.57
Binding	512.95	1,057.91	112.87	1,683.73
Printing			120.00	120.00
Bid Advertising		163.63	5.00	168.63
Bank Commissions			36.50	36.50
Bond Interest Prepaid			80.45	80.45
Travel & Express	621.50	49.27		670.77
Bookmobile Maintenance		1,888.76		1,888.76
Insurance	288.62	225.00		513.62
New Equipment	61.05			61.05
Janitors Supplies	865.59			865.59
Telephone	1,630.95			1,630.95
Light	3,118.50			3,118.50
Heat	780.88			780.88
Stationery & Supplies	1,860.86			1,860.86
Rent	1,680.00			1,680.00
Machine Maintenance	135.70			135.70
Building Maintenance	85.35			85.35
Postage	48.00			48.00
Medical Expenses	719.55			719.55
Elevator Repair	414.27			414.27
All Other	130.50	202.44	15.00	347.94
Wilks Branch		5,502.40		5,502.40
Roof Repair		16,090.46		16,090.46
Lighting Statue		2,108.60		2,108.60
Plaster Repair		1,146.35		1,146.35
Painting		3,128.00		3,128.00
Cleaning & Pointing		4,980.00		4,980.00
West Branch		1,526.70		1,526.70
	$128,829.38	$50,591.60	$16,497.05	$195,918.03

TRUST FUNDS
INCOME AND EXPENDITURES

FUNDS	Balance 1956	Income 1957	Expended 1957	Balance 1957
J. B. Congdon	$ 87.63	$ 15.00	000.00	$ 102.63
George O. Crocker	36.88	291.70	146.08	182.50
Oliver Crocker	98.47	30.00	00.00	128.47
George Howland, Jr.	172.35	48.00	11.42	208.93
C. W. Morgan	130.35	30.00	18.24	142.11
Charles L. Wood	296.28	60.00	295.73	60.55
Sylvia Ann Howland	513.10	1,877.10	921.47	1,468.73
Kempton	518.99	12,612.38	12,510.14	621.23
Elizabeth Mackie	80.77	30.00	48.65	62.12
Patty Wilcox	401.57	150.00	00.00	551.57
Frederick S. Allen	135.21	30.00	45.29	119.92
Florence L. Waite	5,774.54	551.91	1,644.24	4,682.21
Clara L. Tripp	293.87	730.48	787.70	236.65
Sylvia A. H. G. Wilks	14,363.80	41,283.20	50,591.60	5,055.40
Total	$22,903.81	$57,739.77	$67,020.56	$13,623.02
SPECIAL FUNDS				
H. H. Crapo	$ 1.68	00.00	$ 1.68	00.00
William L. R. Gifford	66.41	00.00	66.41	00.00
	$68.09	00.00	$68.09	00.00

TREASURER'S REPORT

WILKS FUND 1957

WILKS FUND INCOME ACCOUNT 1957

Balance January 1, 1957		$14,363.80
Income 1957	$41,283.20	
Expenditures	50,591.60	
Balance December 31, 1957		$ 5,055.40

WILKS FUND PRINCIPAL ACCOUNT

Cash on hand January 1, 1957		$7,921.01
Securities sold—National Shawmut Bank, 200 shares at 46⅞	$ 9,296.62	
Securities purchased—Southern Pacific, 4¼ 1970 Face Value $10,000	9,901.63	
Savings Banks Accounts Closed	107,500.00	
Wilks Branch Expenditures	111,089.85	
Cash on hand December 31, 1957		$3,726.15

WILKS FUND SECURITIES DECEMBER 31, 1957

SAVINGS BANKS

Arlington Five Cents Savings	$ 7,500.00
Beverly Savings	7,500.00
Boston Five Cents Savings	20,000.00
Cambridge Savings	7,500.00
Cape Cod Five Cents Savings (Harwichport)	25,000.00
Fall River Five Cents Savings	7,500.00
Fall River Savings	20,000.00
Home Savings (Boston)	50,000.00
Lynn Institution for Savings	15,000.00
New Bedford Five Cents Savings	50,343.77
New Bedford Institution for Savings	50,000.00
Ware Savings	10,000.00
Wareham Savings	25,000.00
Warren Five Cents Savings	7,500.00
	$302,843.77

CO-OPERATIVE BANKS (Paid-up Shares)

Acushnet Co-operative	$ 8,000.00
New Bedford Co-operative	8,000.00
Quincy Co-operative	8,000.00
	$ 24,000.00

BONDS	BOOK VALUE	MARKET VALUE
Alabama Power Co. 3½ 1972	$26,141.85	$24,250.00
Allied Chemical & Dye Corp. 3½ 1978	26,474.69	24,968.75
Aluminum Co. of America 3⅛ 1964	25,625.00	24,662.50
American Tel. & Tel. Co. 2¾ 1971	49,257.85	45,375.00
American Tobacco Co. 3 1962	50,875.00	48,750.00
Bell Telephone of Penn. 5 1960	53,010.45	50,250.00
Central Maine Power Co. 3½ 1970	24,312.50	23,000.00
Consolidated Edison Co. of New York 3⅝ 1986	24,756.25	24,750.00
Delaware & Hudson Co. 4 1963	25,750.00	24,500.00
General Electric Co. 3½ 1976	25,562.50	24,937.50
General Motors Corp. 3¼ 1979	51,967.95	48,875.00
Houston Lighting & Power Co. 3¼ 1986	24,506.75	23,490.00
Lake Superior District Power Co. 2¾ 1980	9,326.85	7,700.00

Missouri Pacific Railroad 3⅝ 1970	25,000.00	24,500.00
Mountain States Tel. & Tel. Co. 3½ 1990	23,750.00	21,250.00
New England Tel. & Tel. Co. 4½ 1961	53,075.00	50,625.00
New Orleans Public Service Inc. 3⅛ 1974	24,810.00	20,750.00
Niagara Mohawk Power Corp. 3⅝ 1986	24,413.00	22,312.50
Northern Pacific Railway Co. 4 1997	27,750.00	23,500.00
Public Service Co. of Indiana 3⅛ 1975	25,375.00	21,343.75
Southern California Edison Co. 3⅝ 1978	25,942.35	24,875.00
Southern Pacific Company 4¼ 1970	9,901.63	10,300.00
Texas Corporation 3 1965	25,585.25	24,812.50
Western Maryland Railway 3½ 1979	24,875.00	21,250.00
	$709,053.87	$661,027.50

BANK and INSURANCE STOCKS	BOOK VALUE	MARKET VALUE
National Shawmut Bank of Boston 400 shares	$18,867.49	$16,000.00
First Penn. Co. for Banking & Trusts 400 shares	20,210.04	16,400.00
Phoenix Insurance Co. 200 shares	18,651.08	10,650.00
Springfield Fire & Marine Ins. Co. 400 shares	23,238.39	14,400.00
	$80,967.00	$57,450.00

	BOOK VALUE	MARKET DEC. 31st
Savings Banks	$302,843.77	$302,843.77
Co-operative Banks	24,000.00	24,000.00
Bonds	709,053.87	661,027.50
Bank and Insurance Stocks	80,967.00	57,450.00
	$1,116,864.64	$1,045,321.27

ANNUAL REPORT

Free Public Library, for the year 1957

IN CITY COUNCIL,

June 26, 1958

Received, placed on file and ordered printed in the City Documents.

CHARLES W. DEASY,
City Clerk

Attest: CHARLES W. DEASY,
City Clerk